

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Georg-Pietras

Serial No.: 10/621,971

Confirmation No.: 2036

Filed: July 17, 2003

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD
FOR FACILITATING THE
CONNECTION OF TUBULARS
USING A TOP DRIVE

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Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: Frank Tsay

Customer No. 36735

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August, 24, 2004.

William B. Patterson  
Typed Name

Signature

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MAY 20, 2004**

In response to the Office Action dated May 20, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on August 20, 2004, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/MRKS0039.C1/WBP the fee of \$ 214.00 for 7 additional claims, and for any fees, including extension of time fees, necessary to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.

08/27/2004 RMEBRAHT 00000016 200782 10621971

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| 01 FC:1201 | 86.00 DA  |
| 02 FC:1202 | 126.00 DA |